GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5635
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2003
OPENING OF DEPARTMENTAL SUB-POST OFFICES
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Departmental sub-post offices opened in the country during each of the last three years, State/Union territory-wise;

(b) whether the number of post offices presenting in operation in the country is grossly inadequate to meet the expanding needs of the people;

(c) the steps proposed, if any, to expand postal services commensurate with the requirement;

(d) whether there is any proposal to franchise/appoint agents for certain postal activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SH THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a) The number of Departmental sub-post offices opened in the country during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise is given in Annexure.

(b) No, Sir. The country has the largest network of post offices in the world, spread throughout the length and breadth of the country and efforts are made each year to assess emerging needs and provide access to postal facilities.

(c) Expansion of postal services is a continuous process, subject to the availability of requisite resources and fulfilment of prescribed norms for various categories of post offices.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir. There are schemes under which Licensed Stamp Vendors and Panchayat Sanchar Sewak Agentsare being appointed for certain postal activities, like sale of stamps. A review of the earlier scheme of Licensed Postal Agency System in urban areas is also presently underway.

ANNEXURE

DEPARTMENTAL SUB POST OFFICES OPENED SURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

Sl. No.	Circles	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	2	NIL	NIL
2	ASSAM	3	2	1
3	BIHAR	1	NIL	NIL
4	CHHATISGARH	1	1	1
5	DELHI	2	2	1
6	GUJARAT	4	2	NIL
7	HARYANA	1	1	1
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	1	NIL	NIL
9	J & K	1	NIL	NIL
10	JHARKHAND	1	1	NIL
11	KARNATAKA	2	2	1
12	KERALA	1	1	1
13	MADHYA PRADESH	3	3	1
14	MAHARASHTRA	7	10	8
15	NORTH EAST	3	2	1
16	ORISSA	2	2	1
17	PUNJAB	2	8	1
18	RAJASTHAN	2	4	2
19	TAMIL NADU	2	2	1
20	UTTAR PRADESH	NIL	2	1
21	UTTARANCHAL	1	1	NIL
22	WEST BENGAL	10	5	3

TOTAL	52	51	25

- Gujarat includes D.N. Haveli and Daman and Diu.
- Kerala includes Lakshdweep.
- Maharashtra includes Goa.
- North East includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Punjab includes Chandigarh.
- West Bengal includes Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Sikkim.